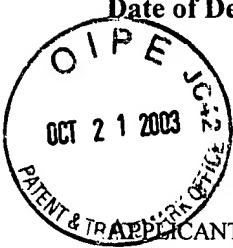


Express Mail Label No.: EV 328701899 US

Date of Deposit: October 21, 2003

Attorney Docket No. 15966-750(Cura-250)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Vernet, *et al.*

SERIAL NUMBER: 09/825,751

EXAMINER: Misook Yu, Ph.D.

FILING DATE: April 3, 2001

ART UNIT: 1642

FOR: NOVEL PROTEINS AND NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING THE SAME

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PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), applicants hereby petition for a two-month extension of time to respond to the May 21, 2003 Final Office Action in the above-identified application.

With the extension, the response is due on or before October 21, 2003. A check in the amount of \$210.00, in payment of the fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(2), is enclosed herewith.

Please charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 15966-750 (Cura 250). A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529

Kristin E. Konzak, No. 44,848

Attorney/Agent for Applicants

c/o MINTZ, LEVIN

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Date: October 21, 2003

Please refer all correspondence to Customer No. 30623.

10/23/2003 AWONDAF1 00000075 9825751

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